



AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH®

**ASSISTANCE TO BASIC EDUCATION/LINKAGES
IN EDUCATION AND HEALTH (ABE/LINK)**

CONTRACT No.: EDH-I-00-05-00025-00

QUARTERLY REPORT

FY 2006, QUARTER 2 (JANUARY 1, 2006 – MARCH 31, 2006)

SUBMITTED TO:

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

APRIL 15, 2006

SUBMITTED BY:

**AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR
RESEARCH**

I. Purpose and Goals

The Assistance to Basic Education (ABE)/Linkages in Education and Health is an Indefinite Quality Contract (IQC) designed to provide technical assistance and services in support of cross-sector linkages between education and health. ABE/LINK is focused on expanding access to quality basic education and promoting linkages in education and health by increasing the use of key child health and nutrition interventions, increasing use of improved, effective and sustainable responses to reduce HIV transmission and to mitigate the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, increasing use of effective interventions to reduce the threat of infectious diseases of major public health importance. The ABE/LINK scope of work promotes assistance for cross-sector linkages between the agency's basic education, health and social sector programs worldwide.

Through ABE/LINK, the American Institutes for Research will provide USAID Missions, the EGAT Bureau, other USAID Bureaus and operating units with services that support basic education, linkages in education and health, and administration and management systems.

II. Summary

AIR responded to the one task order request for proposal that was released during Quarter 2. Other efforts were focused on contractual and administrative issues, including the completion and signature of the remaining, unsigned ABE/LINK subcontracts.

III. Major Activities

1. Task Orders

- One task order request for proposal was received during the period for assistance to the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education (MEPS) of Benin to strengthen education reform and the capacity of MEPS to manage the sectoral response to HIV/AIDS. AIR submitted a proposal on February 10, 2006.

2. Contract Management & Administration

Meetings/Events

- Representatives from AIR and its partners attended the ABE gender workshop entitled "Writing Winning Task-Order Responses with a Gender Lens," which was offered to all ABE/BE and ABE/LINK contractors and held January 26, 2006.

Contract tools

- AIR's Grants Field Manual, as required under the terms of the ABE/LINK IQC Section F.10.13, was submitted to USAID at the end of January 2006.